

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCS-06 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-01 ICA-11 HA-05 /047 W

-----075176 151451Z /64

P R 151430Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO /SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 830

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, DM

SUBJ: JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES COMPENSATION NEGOTIATIONS

REF: LAGOS 7238

1. CHARGE OBTAINED APPOINTMENT JUNE 15 WITH GOVERNMENT OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN (GPRB) FORMIN DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL AND CONSULAR AFFAIRS PAQUI AND PRESENTED NOTE REQUESTING APPOINTMENTS FOR ANDERSSON, HAISLEY, AND BAKARE. CHARGE EXPLAINED THAT WITNESSES WERE ANXIOUS TO COMMENCE NEGOTIATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND, IN VIEW OF DELAYS ARISING FROM GPRB'S LACK OF RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES ABOUT THE ACCEPTABILITY OF CARLOS PROSSER, WITNESSES HAD CHOSEN NEW NEGOTIATOR. PAQUI SAID HE WAS MOST RELIEVED TO BE GIVEN NAMES OF NEW NEGOTIATORS SINCE HE WAS ON VERGE OF SENDING EMBASSY A NOTE STATING THAT CARLOS PROSSER IS CONSIDERED PERSONA NON GRATA IN BENIN. PAQUI SAID THAT GPRB COULD NOT ACCEPT AS A NEGOTIATOR ANYONE WHO HAD BEEN EXPELLED FROM THE COUNTRY SINCE BENIN DID NOT EXPEL EXPATRIOTS FOR FRIVOLOUS REASONS. HE ASKED WHETHER ANY OF THE THREE NEGOTIATORS NOW PROPOSED HAD BEEN PART OF THE BENIN ORGANIZATION OF THE JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES AT THE TIME OF THE EXPULSION. CHARGE REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT THINK SO BUT WOULD CHECK AND INFORM PAQUI. IN CLOSING, PAQUI SAID THAT HE COULD NOT SAY

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EXACTLY WHEN APPOINTMENTS WOULD BE SET UP BUT THAT GPRB CONSIDERED NEGOTIATIONS TO BE AN URGENT MATTER TO BE TAKEN UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. REQUEST CONFIRMATION THAT NONE OF THE NEGOTIATING TEAM HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN IN DIFFICULTIES IN BENIN. THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: COMPENSATION, NEGOTIATIONS
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Draft Date: 15 jun 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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